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FDA Commissioner
Docket No. **00N-1396** & Docket No. OQD-1598
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA,

I am writing to express my opposition to the FDA's new proposed **rule** and guidance on genetically engineered foods. Despite overwhelming consumer demand, the agency's voluntary labeling and notification proposals are totally inadequate to protect human health, the environment, and my right to know what I am eating. I fully support the following:

- All genetically engineered foods and **food ingredients** should be labeled so I am informed and have a choice of what to eat. **Without** mandatory labeling, neither consumers nor health professionals **will** know if an allergic or toxic reaction was the result of a genetically engineered food. Consumers will **also** be deprived of the critical knowledge they need to hold food producers **liable** should any of these novel foods prove to be hazardous.
- Genetically engineered foods should not be assumed to be safe and should be required to be subject to mandatory **pre-market safety** testing. **Genetically engineered** foods could **be toxic**, could **cause** allergic responses, could **have lower** nutritional value, and could **compromise** immune responses in consumers.
- There should be a **moratorium** on genetically engineered foods until long-term studies **show they** are safe for human health **and** the environment.
- The FDA must require **mandatory** pre-market environmental review. Genetically engineered crops and foods could **cause irreparable** damage to the **environment**.

The proposed **rules** are an insult to consumers, and **irresponsibly** ignore strong scientific evidence of numerous potential health, **and** environmental risks of genetically **engineered foods**. These **rules** appear to be a decision made at **the** convenience of industry, and at the expense of public health, consumer information, and **the** environment.

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